

Dhananjayrao Gadgil Library



GIPE-PUNE-002273

Journeys Through France





LE MANS.
THE HOUSE OF QUEEN BÉRENGÈRE.

Journeys
Through France

BEING
IMPRESSIONS OF THE PROVINCES



LONDON
T. FISHER UNWIN

MDCCCXCVII

U8-53.M6

C7

2273

{All Rights Reserved.}

PREFACE.

TAINÉ'S *Carnets de Voyage* were written by him in three successive years, during the journeys which he made as Examiner for admission to the Military School of Saint-Cyr. They were casual entries in a number of small note-books, generally written with a pencil, and rarely corrected or modified. He frequently stated in his letters that he intended to publish them. If he had done so, he would doubtless have re-cast the text, supplied further particulars, and re-written certain portions, as he did with his *Notes sur Paris* and *Notes sur l'Angleterre*, which were based on similar *Carnets*. Meanwhile he utilised a few passages in volumes produced soon afterwards, as in the *Voyage en Italie* (1866), the *Notes sur Paris* (1867), and the brochure on Goethe's *Iphigenia*.

But in 1867 he set to work on his treatise *De l'Intelligence*, a long work which he had contemplated ever since he left the *École Normale*. The war

followed, with the downfall of the Empire, and, out of the political and social revolution which these events brought to pass, there arose a France which differed in some respects from that which is described in the *Carnets*. Thenceforward Taine devoted himself entirely to his *Origines de la France Contemporaine*, at which he worked without intermission to the end of his life. Thus the little note-books on provincial France remained in the form in which they had been written.

The reader must fix the precise dates of these notes for himself. Neither their form nor their substance has been altered; the Author alone could have undertaken such a task. He has himself said: "Ordinairement, on n'a que des commencements de sensations. . . . Pour les avoir parfaites, il faut les corriger, less compléter." In the following pages the reader will find imperfect and incomplete impressions; but, such as they are, even where most rudimentary, they will give him some idea as to the quality of the metal and the richness of the vein.

CONTENTS.

PART I

	PAGE
DOUAI	1
LE MANS	14
LA FLÈCHE	20
SOLESMES	26
FROM LE MANS TO RENNES	33
RENNES	35
THE MUSEUM AT RENNES	40
FROM RENNES TO LE MANS AND TOURS	54
BORDEAUX	60
FROM BORDEAUX TO TOULOUSE	66
TOULOUSE	68
STROLLS IN TOULOUSE	69
FROM TOULOUSE TO CETTE	85
CETTE	87
FROM CETTE TO MARSEILLES	92
MARSEILLES	96
FROM MARSEILLES TO LYONS	107
FROM LYONS TO BESANÇON	117
BESANÇON	119
FROM BESANÇON TO STRASBOURG	127
STRASBOURG	129

PART II

	PAGE
DOUAI REVISITED	135
AMIENS	138
AN EXCURSION TO SAINT MALO	140
POITIERS	142
ARCACHON	154
TOULOUSE	162
MONTPELLIER	166
MARSEILLES	171
PROVENCE	179
BOURG EN BRESSE : THE CHURCH OF BROU	182
BESANÇON	186
NANCY	189
RHEIMS	196

PART III

	PAGE
DOUAI AGAIN	205
LA FLÈCHE	211
FROM RENNES TO REDON	214
VANNES	217
FROM AURAY TO CARNAC	225
THE CATHEDRAL OF NANTES	232
FROM NANTES TO ANGERS	234
THE PICTURE-GALLERY AT ANGERS	235
TOULOUSE	238
CARCASSONNE	247
CETTE	252
A VISIT TO AIGUES MORTES	255
FROM ARLES TO MARSEILLES	259
BERRE	270
ORANGE	276
LYONS	280
CROSSING THE JURA	283
STRASBOURG	285

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS.



1. LE MANS—THE HOUSE OF QUEEN BÉRENGÈRE	<i>Frontispiece</i>
2. LA FLÈCHE ON THE LOIR	<i>Facing page</i> 22
3. THEATRE AT BORDEAUX	” 60
4. THE BELFRY AT DOUAI	” 136
5. TOULOUSE	” 162
6. MARSEILLES CATHEDRAL	” 174
7. RENNES	” 214
8 CETTE	” 252